

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: Takaaki AMANO, et al.  
Filed: Concurrently herewith  
For: **TRANSACTION PROCESSING METHOD AND....**  
Serial No.: Concurrently herewith

May 23, 2001

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

S I R:

Prior to the issuance of an Office Action, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

9. (Amended) A service providing method as claimed in claim 6 wherein:  
the service responding to the amount of said point is to discount a purchase price  
of the ordered goods.

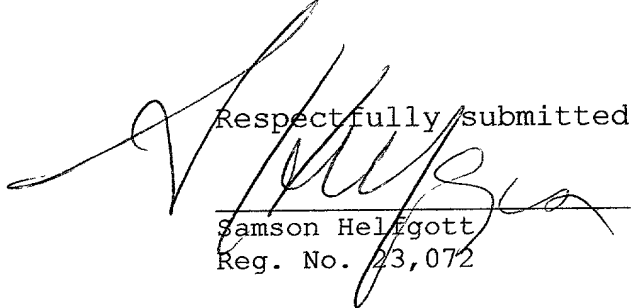
**R E M A R K S**

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made  
to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is  
captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

This amendment is being submitted to avoid multiple  
dependent claims.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

  
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Reg. No. 23,072

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BHU:PRELIM

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS**

9. (Amended) A service providing method as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claims 6 to 8 wherein:

the service responding to the amount of said point is to discount a purchase price of the ordered goods.